

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1-2 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1-2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended, Figs. 1-2 are amended and claim 9 is added. Support for the amendment to claim 1 and added claim 9 can be found, for example, in Fig. 3 and at paragraph [0027] of the specification, as originally filed. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representatives by Examiner Sorkin at the interview held on September 1, 2010 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action objects to the drawings. By this Amendment, Figs. 1-2 are amended as suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 1,595,470 to Johnson. The Office Action also rejects claims 2 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Johnson. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Johnson fails to disclose, and would not have rendered obvious, the gear casing further consisting of a plurality of openings where each opening houses a pinion substantially conforming in size and shape to an outer circumferential profile of the pinion, whereby the space on the radially outer side of each pinion is minimized so that the predetermined amount of material extruded flows between intermingling teeth of the pinions in operation, as recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action identifies casing 15 and disc 33 of Johnson as allegedly corresponding to the claimed casing body and side plates. The Office Action asserts that the end portion of the casing 15 can be considered as a plate. Johnson further describes a cross

section of the casing 15 and the gear elements 17 and 18 (Fig. 3). As depicted in Fig. 3, the casing 15 partially encloses the space on a radially outer side of the pinions.

However, Johnson fails to disclose the space on the radially outer side of the driving pinions and the driven pinion conforming to a size and shape throughout the driven pinions and the driving pinions. This is due to the projection enlargements 22 that are provided in the chamber 16 extending from the inlet openings, as discussed during the personal interview (Johnson page 2, lines 31-35). Thus, the predetermined amount of material does not flow between teeth of the driving pinion and the driven pinions. As shown in Fig. 4 of the Applicant's specification, for example, the material extruded must flow between teeth of the driving pinion or the driven pinion. Since the wall between the driven pinions extends to control the space on the radially outer side of the driving pinion, the teeth of the driving pinion or the driven pinion will always encapsulate the material extruded.

Claims 2-9 incorporate the features of independent claims 1. Thus, claims 2-9 are also allowable by reason of their dependency from independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:JXM/mkg

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Replacement Sheets (Figs. 1-2)

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